

Message Text

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16

ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 ACDA-05 ERDA-05

OIC-02 DPW-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 AID-05 DHA-02 ORM-01

SCA-01 /119 W

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R 082036Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1064

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ICRC, PARM

SUBJECT: CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS - MEETING OF PARIS GROUP

REF: PARIS 16556

1. CHRISTIAN GIRARD TODAY CALLED EMBOFF TO THE OFFICE
OF THE FRENCH DELEGATION TO THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE
ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND HANDED HIM THE
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FOLLOWING AIDE-MEMOIRE. TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TRANSLATION. THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT FOR ITS PART HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE ORGANIZATION, SUGGESTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, OF A MEETING IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER ON THE SUBJECT OF THE QUESTION OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT POINTS OUT THAT IN ORGANIZING AN ANALOGOUS MEETING IN SEPTEMBER 1974, IT DID NOT HAVE THE INTENTION OF INSTITUTING A NEW BODY, THE CONVOCATION AND PRESIDENCY OF WHICH WOULD SYSTEMATICALLY REVERT TO FRANCE.

AS FAR AS THE PROJECTED MEETING FOR NEXT SEPTEMBER IS CONCERNED, THE SCHEDULE OF THE APPROPRIATE FRENCH AUTHORITIES UNHAPPILY DOES NOT PERMIT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ITSELF TO ENVISAGE THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING. IT WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT, NEVERTHELESS, TO PARTICIPATE IN IT IF AN INITIATIVE IS TAKEN BY ANOTHER WITH THE AIM OF CONVOKING A MEETING. WITH THIS IN MIND, IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF FRANCE COULD BE INFORMED OF THE AGENDA. END TRANSLATION.

2. GIRARD POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS A MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AT SAN REMO, ITALY, FROM SEPTEMBER 3 TO 6, WHICH HE WILL ATTEND, AND THAT HE ALSO HAS A MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 15-16. NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID THAT THE DATES OF SEPTEMBER 10 TO 12, ALTHOUGH PERHAPS "A LITTLE RUSHED", PRESENT NO PARTICULAR PROBLEM TO THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE. HE REMARKED THAT THE CANADIANS, TEN DAYS AGO, HAD MADE A DEMARCHE SIMILAR TO THAT MADE BY EMBOFF ON JUNE 25 (REFTEL) AND THAT HE (GIRARD) HAD INFORMED THEM AT THAT TIME THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY FRANCE WOULD SEE FIT TO PRESIDE OVER THE MEETING OF THE PARIS GROUP AND ACT AS HOST. GIRARD ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE HAD A PREFERENCE FOR HOLDING THE MEETING IN EUROPE, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT NEARLY TWO-THIRDS OF THE PARTICIPATING STATES ARE FROM THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT. GIRARD HOPES THAT HE WILL BE INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF THE WISHES OF THE PARTICIPATING STATES AS TO THE EXACT TIMING, WHEREABOUTS, AND AGENDA OF THE CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS GROUP.

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3. IN FACT GIRARD LEAVES FOR AN EXTENDED VACATION ON JULY 20. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, POST WOULD APPRECIATE AT LEAST PARTIAL RESPONSE TO THE ABOVE MATTERS BEFORE THAT DATE.
RUSH

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